

HARWICH CULTURAL COUNCIL – MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, February 14, 2019, 4:30 PM at the Harwich Cultural Center

Members Present: Tina Games, Rose Ann Clarke, Joan Sacchetti, Rosanne Shapiro, Shay Mitchell

The meeting was called to order at 4:31 p.m. by Tina Games, Chair

Public Comments and Announcements:

- Tina announced the recent decision by the Board of Selectmen to approve the naming of the art shacks at Saquatucket Harbor after hearing a presentation by Carolyn Carey and Erica Strzepek. The shacks will be named for locations in Harwich Port. In connection with this announcement, Rose Ann Clarke shared re: opportunities to see oyster cultivation in Wychmere Harbor, a great opportunity for family visitors, especially with children.
- Rosann Donahue's resignation from the Harwich Cultural Council was accepted. We discussed the process for resignation of HCC members who are leaving before their terms expire. Lorraine Bossi has just submitted her early resignation this week. Tina emphasized the need to follow the correct procedure in order resign at the end of terms on the HCC. Tina also reported that none of the potential appointees for vacancies has been contacted; she will follow up with the BOS about this delay.
- In response to a question from Shay, Rosanne Shapiro shared re: her efforts to support legislation to change the state flag and seal. She has presented to the BOS and submitted an article for inclusion in the warrant for this year's town meeting.

Old Business:

- Minutes of the January 10, 2019 meeting were reviewed and unanimously approved – motion by Rose Ann Clarke and seconded by Shay.
- We reviewed the financial report submitted by Treasurer Joan Sachetti. The funds not used for ALP, FOPA instrument rental, and the Whydah field trip will revert to our main account as reimbursement requests have not been received. We also discussed the need for transition to a new treasurer in time for Joan to train that HCC member.
- We have started receiving invitations from this year's grantees. The first of these is an opportunity for two members of the HCC to join the Harwich Middle School on a trip to Providence to see "Phantom of the Opera;" Rosanne & Rose Ann will be attending this event. Tina will pass along information to Council members about future invitations.

- Tina attended the MCC Cultural Compact meeting in Boston on February 8 and had opportunities to network with representatives of other compact communities, e.g., Springfield, to exchange ideas. Since we are the only town selected for a Cultural Compact, Tina shared re: our town meeting process to obtain funding. Luis Cotto, MCC liaison for cultural districts was also present as was our new MCC liaison, Lisa Simmons, who is replacing Charlotte Cutter.
- Tina has submitted a town meeting article to the BOS requesting \$3,600 to supplement our annual grant allocations for FY20. She has also submitted our annual report to be included in the town's annual report.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Grant Reception – The reception for this year's grantees will be held on Thursday, June 6 in the library at the Harwich Cultural Center. Tina will send invitations via email and will include Lisa Simmons. Shay and Rosanne will be responsible for planning food and beverages, keeping in mind the need to scale down from last year. We will also plan time for grantees to share briefly about their projects and, where appropriate, provide entertainment.
- Survey – We will be using Survey Monkey and will ask Erica to put the survey link in the Harwich Cultural Center newsletter, and Tina will share the announcement with her local contacts and will post it on our HCC Facebook page. She will also mention it during her upcoming interview with the Voter Information Committee on Channel 18. Council members will also share the link with their Harwich networks. Survey Monkey will tabulate the responses and provide a report of the results.

After a full discussion, we decided to make the survey anonymous and agreed on the following questions:

1. Are you familiar with the Harwich Cultural Council (HCC) and its responsibilities?
2. Have you attended one of our grant funded events? Which ones?
3. What are the priorities that the HCC should consider for grant funding? (We might ask for the top 3 recommendations and use the list from the previous survey.)
4. Is there a particular population we should aim to reach through cultural projects?
5. Would you like to learn more about what we do? Include suggestion to follow us on Facebook as well as option to add email address.

Tina will create a Survey Monkey draft from the list and send to Council members for review prior to posting for community responses.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:03 – motion by Rosanne; seconded by Shay

**Minutes submitted by Rosanne Shapiro, Secretary of the Harwich Cultural Council*